

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 NEA-10

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TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 239401

NESCO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG, UNESCO, IS

SUBJECT: ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON APPROACHED RE
UNESCO REPS TO OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

1. UNESCO ASST. DIRGEN NAJMAN MET WITH ISRAELI FOREIGN
MINISTER ALLON IN NEW YORK SEPTEMBER 24 TO DISCUSS VISIT
BY DIRGEN'S REPS TO OCCUPIED TERRITORIES TO COLLECT
INFORMATION ON EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL SITUATION.

2. ACCORDING NAJMAN'S ACCOUNT OF MEETING, HE PROPOSED TO
ALLON EXCHANGE OF CABLES BETWEEN UNESCO DIRGEN M'BOW AND
ALLON (DRAFTS RECEIVED FROM PARIS JUST BEFORE MEETING WITH
ALLON BEGAN) WHEREBY: (A) M'BOW WOULD CONFIRM RECEIPT OF
ALLON'S LATEST LETTER, SIMPLY NOTE DIFFICULTIES REFERRED
TO THEREIN AND EXPRESS DESIRE TO BE ABLE TO PRESENT REPORT
TO GENERAL CONFERENCE (GC) WITHIN "REASONABLE TIME" ON
SITUATION RE EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES;
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AND (B) ALLON WOULD REPLY GOI PREPARED TO RECEIVE M'BOW'S

REPS "FROM OCTOBER 5." IT WOULD BE UNDERSTOOD ON BOTH SIDES THAT M'BOW'S REPS WOULD PROCEED TO ISRAEL ON OR ABOUT OCTOBER 5 AND MAKE REPORT BEFORE GC BEGINS.

3. NAJMAN SAID HE STRESSED TO ALLON VIEW OF M'BOW THAT UNLESS HIS REPS VISIT TERRITORIES AND SUBMIT REPORT BY

TIME GC CONVENES, CHANCES OF HAVING THIS MATTER HANDLED BY GC IN RELATIVELY LOW KEY ARE NIL. NAJMAN TOLD ALLON THAT M'BOW IS "FAR FROM ENTHUSIASTIC" RE OCTOBER 5 DATE, FEELING IT IS TOO CLOSE TO OPENING OF GC. HE ALSO SAID M'BOW UNWILLING TO ENTER INTO FURTHER TALKS RE DETAILS ABOUT WHERE HIS REPS WOULD GO, HOW LONG THEY WOULD STAY, AND WHETHER VISIT IN OCTOBER WOULD COMPLETE THEIR ACTIVITIES. GOI WOULD HAVE TO WORK THESE DETAILS OUT WITH REPRESENTATIVES ONCE THEY ARE IN ISRAEL. NAJMAN STRESSED TO ALLON THAT M'BOW HAD CHOSEN HIS REPS WITH GREAT CARE AND THEY WERE INDIVIDUALS IN WHOM GOI COULD HAVE TRUST. (ACCORDING TO NAJMAN, ALLON COMMENTED FAVORABLY ON CHOICE OF REPS, PARTICULARLY YUGOSLAV WHO IS LONG-TIME AND TRUSTED FRIEND OF A'LON.) NAJMAN ALSO ASSURED ALLON THERE WOULD BE NO PUBLICITY ON THIS MATTER FROM UNESCO SIDE BUT SAID UNESCO COULD NOT PREVENT LEAKAGE ON ISRAELI SIDE.

4. NAJMAN SAID ALLON, WHILE DISPLAYING SYMPATHETIC ATTITUDE, MADE CLEAR VERY FRANKLY THAT GOI'S RELUCTANCE TO RECEIVE M'BOW'S REPS BEFORE NEXT YEAR STEMS FROM FEAR THEIR VISIT COULD GENERATE DEMONSTRATIONS IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES, DEMONSTRATIONS WHICH GOI ANXIOUS TO AVOID DURING UNGA AND UNESCO GENERAL CONFERENCE. ALLON HAS PROMISED TO PROVIDE REPLY TO THIS LATEST SUGGESTION FROM UNESCO IN SEPTEMBER 27 MEETING WITH NAJMAN IN NEW YORK. KISSINGER

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